

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The Child Welfare League of America, joined by the South Dakota Coalition for Children and the South Dakota Court Appointed Special Advocates Association is promoting the Children's Memorial Flag as a way to remember the thousands of children affected by abuse and violence each year; and,

Whereas, Each year numerous governors become involved in an impressive effort to fly the flag to commemorate children; and,

Whereas, The Children's Memorial Flag has become a symbol of the need to do a better job of protecting children; and,

Whereas, The affects of child abuse are felt by whole communities and need to be addressed by entire communities; and,

Whereas, Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community; and,

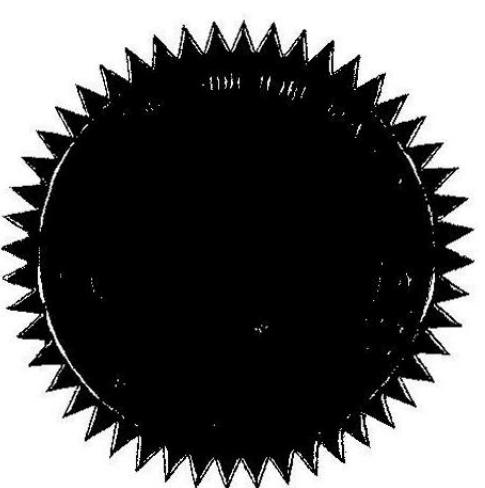
Whereas, All citizens should become more aware of the negative affects of child abuse and its prevention within their communities and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday April 25, 2003, as

CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY

in South Dakota, and urge all citizens to remember the thousands of children across the country that are affected by abuse and violence each year and to increase their participation in efforts to prevent child abuse, thereby, strengthening the communities in which we live.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventeenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.



M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:



Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State